

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS23067

This bill enhances Idaho's ability to move and store data. Businesses are investing heavily in technology infrastructure and are deciding where to spend those dollars. National and local companies are interested in locating data storage centers here in Idaho, bringing low-impact facilities with high-paying jobs and property taxes for the benefit their host communities. Similarly, national and local telecommunications companies consider infrastructure investments in Idaho every year. Those investments increase connectivity for Idaho citizens and businesses. However, Idaho doesn't have the necessary tools to be competitive in the current environment. This bill levels the playing field for our state by exempting from sales and use tax new purchases of telecommunications network equipment and data center equipment.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill is estimated to result in \$3.8 million decrease in annual anticipated revenue to the General Fund. However, the decrease will be offset by non-exempt purchases, property taxes and corporate and personal income taxes.

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